

Special Olympics Michigan



Special Olympics
Michigan
Be a fan.™

Michigan

21,754 athletes

23 sports offered

8 state-level competitions, district basketball tournaments and more than 447 competitions statewide.

Year-round sports training and competitions

20,000 volunteers

Programs provided at no cost to athletes or their families

Budget funded almost entirely by private donations

Sports include:

Alpine Skiing

Aquatics

Athletics

Basketball

Bocce

Bowling

Cross-Country Skiing

Cycling

Figure Skating

Golf

Gymnastics (Artistic & Rhythmic)

Horseshoes

Poly Hockey

Powerlifting

Soccer

Snowboarding

Snowshoeing

Softball

Speed Skating

Team Handball

Volleyball

Weightlifting

*Plus: Unified Sports®

Healthy Athletes™ Program

Young Athletes™ Program

Motor Activities™ Training Program

OVERVIEW

- Since 1968, Special Olympics has grown to become the world's largest movement dedicated to promoting respect, acceptance, inclusion and human dignity for people with intellectual disabilities through sport.
- Special Olympics provides a catalyst for social change and building communities by creating more unified communities around the world, where each person, regardless of ability or disability, is accepted and welcomed, and where every individual contributes to the strength and vibrancy of the whole.
- Sports is a universal language which unites people on and off the field of play, cutting across lines of race, ethnicity, education level, social status and economic background.
- Special Olympics offers 32 Olympic-type summer and winter sports and holds nearly 50,000 competitions annually.
- Special Olympics serves more than 3.7 million athletes in 229 accredited programs in 170 countries worldwide.
- More than 847,000 volunteers and 275,000 coaches worldwide contribute their time and expertise to help Special Olympics reach as many athletes as possible.

ATHLETE PARTICIPANTS

- At competitions athletes are placed into divisions based on age, gender, and ability. Competitions take place at local, regional, state, national, and world levels.
- Special Olympics Michigan is a path to empowerment for athletes, and offers a chance to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, and experience joy, inclusion and friendship with their families and other Special Olympics athletes.
- According to a Yale University study, Special Olympics has a direct and positive effect on the self-image of participating athletes and their ability to function in a social setting.

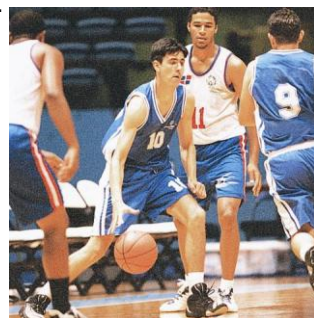
VOLUNTEERS

- Thousands of Michigan volunteers contribute their time, energy and expertise to make the Special Olympics Michigan programs a reality. Volunteers serve as coaches, sports officials, committee members, on-site volunteers at competitions, and in many other capacities. Coaches who work with Special Olympics Michigan athletes participate in training schools to learn the principles of coaching, update their knowledge of the sport, and acquire specific training techniques.

FUNDING

- Special Olympics Michigan is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization supported almost entirely through corporate funding and individual gifts, without the support of state funds. All Special Olympics Michigan programs and activities are available at no cost to Michigan athletes or their families. The generosity of Michigan organizations, individuals, and statewide businesses enable the program to continue.

Donations to Special Olympics Michigan can be made at www.somi.org, by phone at (800) 644-6404 or by mail to Special Olympics Michigan, Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan 48859



www.somi.org
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